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BULB CATALOGUE 1937 FOR DEALERS



ALSTROMERIA—PELEGRINA ALBA

Las Positas Nursery

P. O. Box 681

SANTA BARBARA
CALIFORNIA

FOREWORD

For several years we have been collecting and testing scarce and little known bulbous plants from both hemispheres and from every continent and have sent out to the trade a selected list of those varieties which we were willing to offer on their merits. The lists have been received with interest and the material delivered in response to orders has aroused favorable comment. We are therefore handing you this, our fourth list, which contains several new items, with greater confidence in our unusual and attractive stock than we have felt before.

All of our bulbs have been grown under ideal soil and climatic conditions and have received careful and expert cultivation. We have grown our own stock and nothing is offered that has not been under our own observation for several years.

Wherever our flowers have been exhibited their novelty and beauty have so interested the public that a rapidly increasing demand for our material has been aroused among garden lovers.

In reading our suggestions as to culture, use, hardiness, etc., it should be remembered that, unless otherwise definitely stated, we refer to climatic conditions similar to those of Southern California.

This year, as heretofore, our stock of some varieties is very limited. The demand for a number of items has increased more rapidly than our stock and in consequence we are obliged to withdraw them entirely from the market this year. *As to some other items our available stock will doubtless, as in previous years, be inadequate to supply the demand, so we suggest booking your orders as early as possible.* We will gladly furnish any additional information you may wish to assist you in presenting these bulbs to your customers.

We have tried to price our material fairly. In case, however, our prices are thought to be out of line in any instance, we should be glad to be advised and given an opportunity to meet the market price.

Bulbs will be ready for delivery about August first, unless otherwise stated, and will be shipped at buyer's sole risk.

As we do no retail business, prices quoted herein are for dealers only, F.O.B., Santa Barbara, and are payable 90 days after delivery to the carrier for shipment. Thereafter interest will be chargeable at 6%.

While we use great care to ensure that we describe and name our material correctly and to see that only material of the best quality is sent out in response to orders, we give no warranty, express or implied, as to description, quality, productiveness or any other matter of any seeds, bulbs, or plants we send out, and we will not be in any way responsible for the crop. We quote subject to immediate acceptance, stocks unsold, confirmation of orders, stenographic errors and omissions, delays and contingencies beyond our control.

LAS POSITAS NURSERY,
P. O. Box 681,
Santa Barbara, California.



ALSTROMERIA—PELEGRINA ALBA

ALSTROMERIA

Plants from South America, useful for cutting and attractive in the garden; belonging to the Amaryllis family and characterized by masses of thickish or tuberous roots attached to a crown from which arise leafy stems bearing clusters of interesting and colorful flowers. Most varieties bloom in the spring and flourish out of doors in mild climates. Indoors they grow readily in pots or pans. They do best in partial shade in a sandy loam with plenty of humus. Good drainage is essential. As the thick fleshy roots are easily damaged in lifting, it is best to leave the plants undisturbed as long as possible after they are once established. After flowering in the spring, water should be gradually withdrawn as the plant ripens and very little given until growth starts again in the fall.

A. *pelegrina*

Called "Lily of the Incas." Flowers dark rose with the inner petals heavily spotted with reddish purple, 1 to 1¼ inches across, in a

large umbel on 14 to 18 inch stems. Very vigorous and showy both as a cut flower and in the border.

\$10.00 per 100

A. pelegrina alba

"White Lily of the Incas." Very beautiful form of *A. pelegrina* with white unspotted flowers.

\$10.00 per 100

ARTHROPODIUM CIRRHATUM

New Zealand Rock Lily. Evergreen herbaceous perennial. Handsome the year round. Prefers partial or dense shade. Indifferent as to culture. Leaves deep green, about two inches wide, one to two feet long. White flowers in spring a half to one inch in diameter on a much branched panicle one to three feet in height. Seedling plants delivered during late summer and fall.

\$1.50 per 10

\$10.00 per 100

BABIANA

Spring flowering Cape bulbs needing the same culture as freesias. Very interesting, attractive and useful in pots, edgings or rock gardens.

B. hybrids

Fine mixture of various shades of red, blue and pink. Bloom over a long period. Stem 6 to 12 inches.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

B. plicata

Large wide-open flowers with an interesting color combination of cream and lavender. Blooms early, is low growing and has a strong, pleasant freesia-like fragrance.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

B. rubro-cyanea

Flowers blue with bright red centers.

\$3.50 per 50

\$5.00 per 100

B. sulphurea

Low growing cream and yellow flowers with bright blue stamens. Blooms early and has a strong spicy fragrance.

\$3.50 per 50

\$5.00 per 100



BESSERA ELEGANS

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New introduction from Mexico. Dainty bell-shaped flowers, orange red outside, creamy white with orange stripe inside, with purplish stamens, hanging in an interesting umbel from the tip of a graceful wiry stem 18 to 24 inches tall. Foliage inconspicuous. Blooms freely from July to last of September. Cuts well and is exceptionally interesting in flower arrangements. A striking addition to the summer garden, suggesting as it does, the burst of a miniature rocket. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery early winter.

\$10.00 per 100

\$75.00 per 1000



BRODIAEA CAPITATA

BRODIAEA

Bulbs native to the Pacific coast, producing one or two long slender leaves near the ground and slender stiff stems bearing a head of attractive flowers of great lasting quality when cut. *All are hardy under most conditions*, naturalize easily in any well drained soil and are also very useful and easy to grow under glass when given the same treatment as freesias. All should be dried out and rested after flowering. Our bulbs grown under ideal cultural conditions are superior to collected wild bulbs.

B. capitata

Called California Hyacinth. Slender stems 12 to 18 in. high terminate in a close cluster

of violet-blue flowers. In mild climates flowers in October, six weeks after planting, and remains in bloom till March or April, producing as many as 20 flower stems from one bulb. Especially desirable in the garden and under glass. Those who know it only as a wild flower will hardly recognize it under cultivation so greatly does it improve in the size and profusion of its bloom.

\$3.00 per 100

\$20.00 per 1000

B. ixioides

Known in California as Golden Star. Blooms in spring. Stem about 12 inches tall. Large umbel of bright yellow flowers with darker line on outside of petal. Gay and cheerful in the garden. Does well under glass.

\$3.00 per 100

\$20.00 per 1000

B. ixioides var.

Similar to *B. ixioides* except flowers are a lighter shade of yellow and bloom three to four weeks earlier. Very desirable.

\$3.00 per 100

\$20.00 per 1000

B. laxa

"Ithuriel's spear." Large cluster or umbel of bluish violet flowers on a two-foot stem. General appearance comparable to an *Agapanthus* flower. Blooms in spring. Likes partial shade.

\$6.00 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

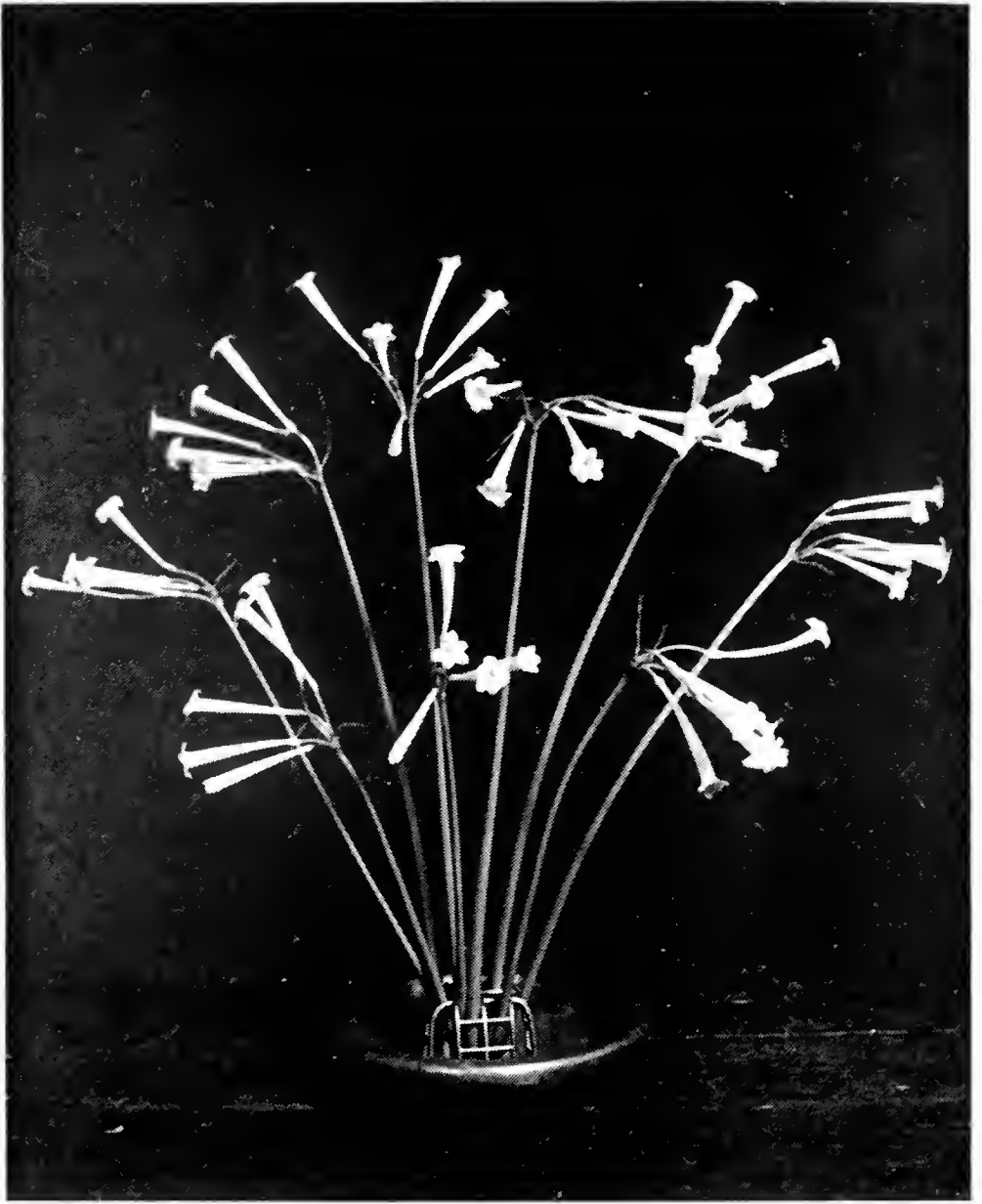
CYRTANTHUS

Interesting and colorful group of Cape bulbs belonging to *Amaryllis* family. Blooms late winter and spring. Foliage nearly evergreen. Useful for rock gardens, borders and pot culture. Does best after becoming established and makes fine clumps if left undisturbed several years.

C. lutescens

Bright yellow tubular slightly funnel-shaped flowers two inches long on 12 to 14 inch stems. Six or eight narrow, bright green leaves about a foot long. Whole plant attractive and charming. Flowers useful for cutting.

\$10.00 per 100



CYRTANTHUS LUSTESCENS

C. Mackenii

Similar to *C. lutescens* except whole plant is a little stronger and flowers a clear ivory white.

\$10.00 per 100

BLETILLA (*Bletia*)

Terrestrial orchid from China and Japan. Easily grown in ordinary garden soil with plenty of moisture. Prefers half shade. Blooms in spring. *Hardy under all conditions.* Delivery late fall.

B. hyacinthina

Bright green plaited leaves 1 to 2 inches wide, 12 to 15 inches high. Three to five dainty orchid shaped lavender flowers on stems 10 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well.

Each 35c

\$15.00 per 50

B. hyacinthina alba

Similar to *B. hyacinthina* except slightly smaller. Has bright clear white flowers.

Each 50c

\$20.00 per 50

CHLIDANTHUS FRAGRANS

Bright yellow trumpet shaped flowers on stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well. Strong, pleasant fragrance. Bulbs must be kept dry in fall and winter. Prefers full sun in any garden soil. Blooms in early summer. Delivery late fall.

\$5.00 per 50

\$9.00 per 100

GALTONIA CANDICANS

Cape bulb, commonly called Giant Summer Hyacinth. Produces a strong, erect stem rising four feet or more from the center of the foliage in summer and bearing at the top a splendid raceme of twenty or more large drooping pure white bell-shaped flowers. Extremely effective in groups in the perennial border. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery late fall until early summer.

\$4.00 per 100

\$35.00 per 1000

GLADIOLUS SPECIES

There are over one hundred species of gladiolus the beauty, grace and usefulness of many of which have long been overlooked. We are now offering a few of these species and will have others as soon as sufficient stock can be developed. Of the present offerings the culture is the same as for freesias.

G. alatus

Interesting terra-cotta colored flowers with green lower segments. Spring blooming on stems 6 to 12 inches tall. Called "Little Roosters" in S. Africa because of their jaunty form. Desirable in rock gardens and pots.

\$3.50 per 50

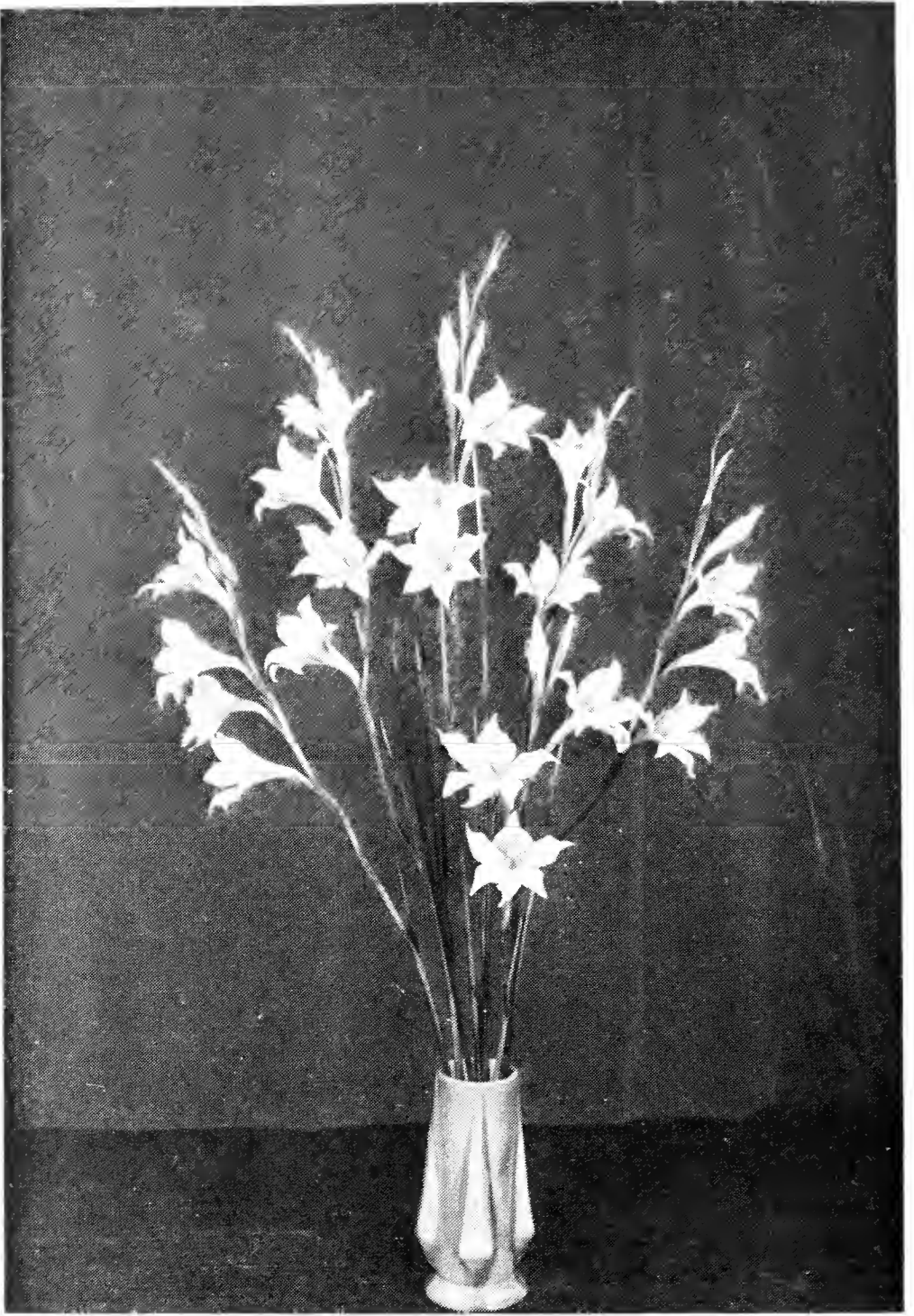
\$6.00 per 100

G. tristis var. concolor

Creamy white flowers with pleasant spicy fragrance at night or when placed in a darkened room. Stems 15 to 18 inches tall. Blooms in early spring. Excellent for cutting and forcing.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000



GLADIOLUS TRISTIS HYBRIDS

GLADIOLUS TRISTIS HYBRIDS

A decided improvement on *G. tristis* var. *concolor*. Flowers resemble them but slightly larger and many nearly white. Stems 15 inches to 3 feet tall. Bloom earlier than *G. tristis* var. *concolor*. Very desirable for cutting and forcing.

\$6.00 per 100

\$50.00 per 1000

HAEMANTHUS COCCINEUS

“Blood flower.” One of a large group of tropical and sub-tropical bulbs of the *Amaryllis* family all of which are interesting and curious and some very showy. This variety has two bright green opposite leaves 3 to 5 inches wide and one to two feet long lying flat on the ground, growing in the winter. The single bright red flower appears in the fall before the leaves. It is a large cluster or umbel 2 to



IXIA BLOEM ERF

4 inches across composed of many small flowers closely placed. Stem 6 to 9 inches high, green heavily spotted with red. General appearance striking and curious.

50 cents each.

IXIA BLOEM ERF

Recently introduced hybrid from S. Africa, quite different from other ixias. Blooms in late spring. Wiry stems 4 to 5 feet tall with 20 to 40 open flowers in a raceme at the top with several smaller flowering branches below. Color varies from pure white through shades of pink overlaid with a bluish tinge. Excellent for cutting.

\$4.00 per 100

\$30.00 per 1000

IXIA INCARNATA

A distinct novelty recently introduced from S. Africa. Light blue, bell-shaped flowers on slender

stems 18 to 24 inches tall. Flowers do not close at night like other ixias. Has a strong, very pleasant, freesia-like fragrance. Blooms early in Santa Barbara and cuts well.

\$7.00 per 100

\$60.00 per 1000

LACHENALIA

Cape bulb new to this country but long known in England under the name of Cape Cowslip. These bulbs are especially useful for florists' work as they can be grown in flats or in the field and shifted into pots or baskets when in full bloom. All of them do well out of doors in milder climates and are showy in beds, borders, and rock gardens and all are easily grown under glass. Culture similar to freesias.

Large flowered forms have been hybridized. They have from one to two dozen generally pendulous, fire-cracker-like flowers, three-quarters to one inch in length on stems 6 to 9 inches and bloom from late November to February depending on the time of planting and the variety.

Small flowered forms have not been hybridized. The flowers are small and loosely borne in a tapering spike 8 to 12 inches high, and do not droop. Stamens and style in some varieties extend beyond the mouth of the flower.

Large Flowered Varieties

L. glaucina

Flowers bluish, shading from greenish blue at base to almost white at the tip; standing nearly upright on a 6 to 12 inch spike. Stem and two green leaves blotched with reddish brown and purple.

\$9.00 per 50

\$15.00 per 100

L. pendula superba

Flowers brilliant coral red tipped green and purple. Two or three tulip-like green leaves. One of the best and earliest. Excellent for florist use as a Christmas plant.

\$9.00 per 50

\$15.00 per 100

L. Rector of Cawston

Flowers scarlet, citron and green ; free blooming. Two or three strap-shaped leaves with red spots.

\$5.00 per 50

\$8.00 per 100

L. tubiflora

Flowers creamy white, bluish at the base tipped with purple standing nearly upright on a 6 to 12 inch spike. Stem green mottled with purple. One green leaf.

\$6.00 per 50

\$10.00 per 100

L. liliiflora

Flowers creamy white, tips flaring, tinged with green, set thickly on 6 to 12 inch spike. Yellow stamens prominent. Stem green, two green leaves covered with blisters.

\$6.00 per 50

\$10.00 per 100

L. mutabilis

Flowers urn-shaped, metallic blue, shading to violet tipped with yellow and brown. Stems 12 to 15 inches, green, shading in the upper half to bright violet blue. One green leaf.

\$6.00 per 50

\$10.00 per 100

L. unicolor

Flowers urn-shaped, purple, or white tinged with purple. Stem 6 to 10 inches, green, slightly blotched with purple, shading into pink near the top. Two green leaves.

\$6.00 per 50

\$10.00 per 100

L. unicolor var. fragrans

Flowers creamy white, violet at the base, tips flaring tinged with brownish purple. Stem green 6 to 10 inches. Two green leaves.

\$6.00 per 50

\$10.00 per 100

LEUCOCORYNE IXIODES ODORATA

“Glory of the Sun.” Recent introduction from Chile; flowering in spring. Heads of large, fragrant flowers, blue with white center and golden stamens, carried gracefully on a wiry stem 12 to 18 inches tall. Requires same culture as freesias. Its beauty and long lasting qualities as a cut flower and its ease of culture make it an outstanding new plant.

\$15.00 per 100

\$125.00 per 1000

LYCORIS RADIATA

Native of Japan and China. Blooms in fall before leaves appear. Bright red funnel-shaped flowers with wavy segments, somewhat like nerines, on stems 12 to 18 inches tall. Free blooming and easily grown. May be left undisturbed for several years in milder climates when it will make fine showy clumps. Should be kept dry in summer.

\$5.00 per 50

\$9.00 per 100

LYCORIS SQUAMIGERA

Native of China and Japan. Originally introduced into United States as *Amaryllis Hallii*. Large rosy-lilac flowers on stems 2 to 3 feet high in late summer. Foliage appears in spring, dies in early summer. Hardy under most conditions. Unusually good for naturalizing. Can be left undisturbed for years. Good for cutting. Delivery in fall.

\$25.00 per 50

\$40.00 per 100

MELASPHAERULA GRAMINEA

Interesting Cape bulb blooming in spring. Many small cream-colored flowers on a much branched stem 18 to 24 inches high. General appearance like *Gypsophila* or “Baby’s Breath.” Useful as a filler in flower arrangements.

\$4.00 per 50

\$6.00 per 100



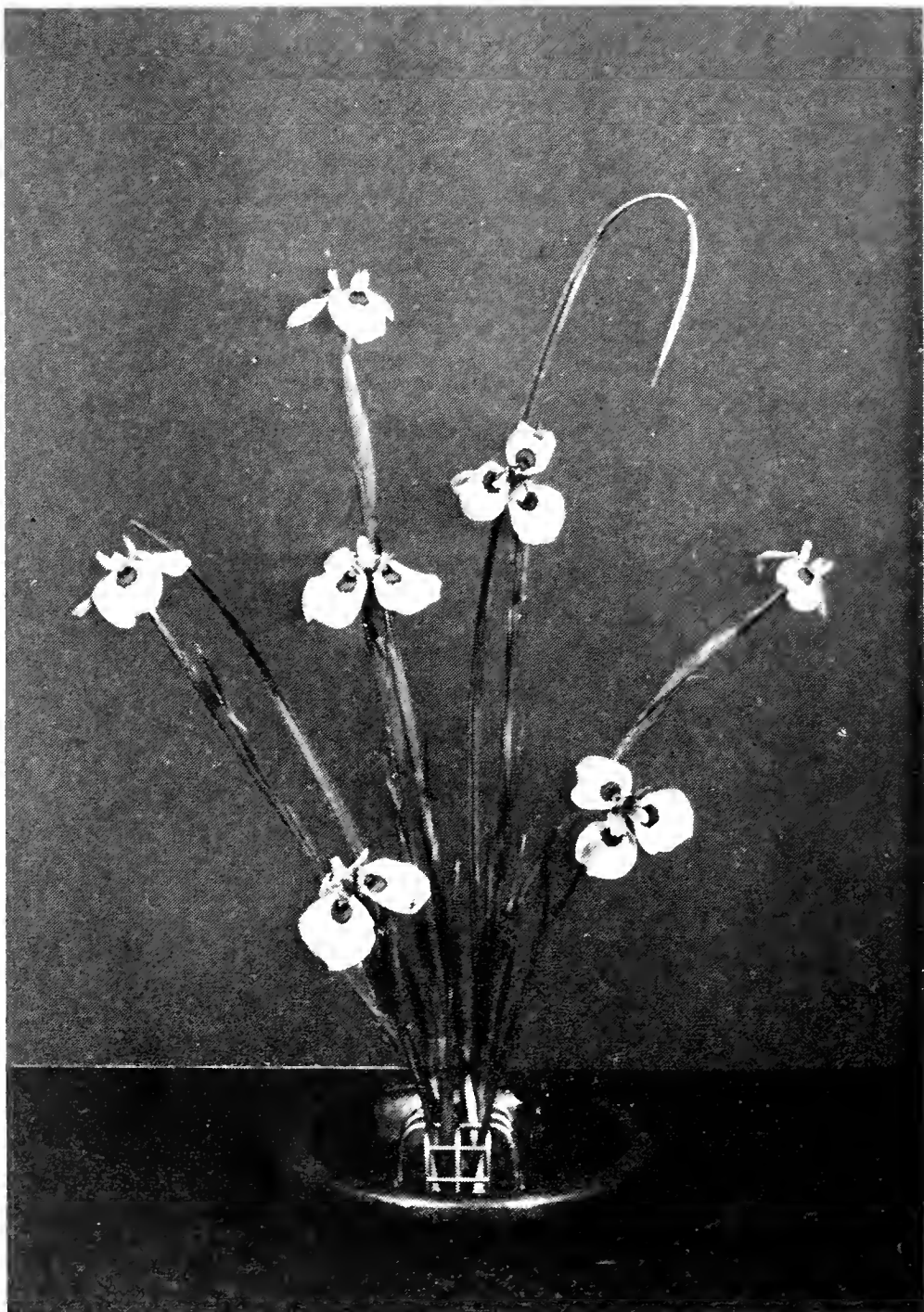
MILLA BIFLORA

MILLA BIFLORA

New introduction from Mexico where it is called Estrellitas, or Little Stars, by the country people. Showy white flowers, opening out flat, waxy in texture, about two inches in diameter, with six petals not quite separated. A faint stripe of soft apple green runs from tip to base on the outside of each petal. The stems are wiry, 12 to 18 inches tall, bearing two to seven flowers each. Foliage inconspicuous. Very free blooming from July to September. Flowers cut well and have a pleasant lily-like fragrance. Most attractive both in arrangements and in the garden. The striking hexagonal shape of bud and flower and the regular striping lend a faintly modernistic note that is both attractive and unusual. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery early winter.

\$10.00 per 100

\$75.00 per 1000



MORAEA GLAUCOPIS

MORAEA (bulbous)

An interesting group most of which are natives of South Africa, many being new to cultivation. Some are useful for cutting, others for the perennial garden and others still for pot culture and rock gardens. All listed below flower in spring. They show a wide range of colors and vary in height from six inches to three feet. On most of them the foliage is not important. Same culture as for freesias.

M. glaucopsis (Iris pavonia)

Often called Peacock Iris. Flowers white or light blue with peacock eye at base of outer segments. Stems 10 to 15 inches high. Excellent for cutting, forcing, rock gardens and pots.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

M. polystachya

New introduction. Slender plant, 18 to 24 inches high, with many wiry branches. Well covered with flowers looking at a distance like a close group of butterflies. The outer segments of the flowers are light mauve, pencilled with Parma violet, with a bright yellow spot at the base, inner segments light mauve with little pencilling. Flowers six weeks after planting and blooms three to four months. Planted in clumps it provides a mass of color over a long period.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

M. isopetala

New introduction. Slender well branched plant 6 to 8 inches high. Flowers similar to *M. polystachya* but lavender in color. Most useful in pots and rock gardens.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

NERINE FILIFOLIA

Fall blooming with evergreen thread-like leaves 6 to 8 inches long. Flowers dark pink with narrow wavy segments, pistil and stamens longer than segments, borne six to ten in an umbel on wiry stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Fine for cutting and a real find for rock gardens and edgings for beds. Delivery January to May.

\$5.00 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

SCHIZOSTYLIS

Kaffir Lily from S. Africa. Rhizomatous roots. Not hardy but soon makes fine clumps in milder climates, blooming in late summer and fall. May be lifted and potted in late summer and, by retarding, flowers may be had over a long period. Likes partial shade and plenty of moisture during the summer. Cuts well. Delivered February to May. Plants for forcing delivered in September.

S. coccinea

Bright red flowers on 18 to 24 inch stems.

\$5.00 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000



SCHIZOSTYLIS MRS. HEGERTY

S. Mrs. Hegerty

Recent introduction. Beautiful clear pink flowers on two foot stems.

\$10.00 per 100

\$80.00 per 1000

SPARAXIS BULBIFERA

Light yellow, tall growing, very free flowering.

\$4.50 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

SPARAXIS HYBRIDS

Several shades of orange, yellow, purple and cream. Very free blooming over a long period in spring.

\$4.50 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000



ZEPHYRANTHES ROBUSTA

STREPTANTHERA CUPREA

Brilliant new Cape bulb; foliage like tritonia; flowers open flat; brilliant orange-red with violet eye. Hardier than freesia and more vivid than sparaxis. Each bulb produces several spikes of bloom; 6 to 8 inches. Spring.

\$5.00 per 100

\$45.00 per 1000

TRITONIA HYALINA

Flame color with lower half of petal colorless and transparent. Very free flowering. Spring.

\$4.50 per 100

\$40.00 per 1000

TRITONIA NEW HYBRIDS

Good mixture of pinks and salmons. Spring flowering.

\$3.00 per 100

\$20.00 per 1000

